



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 13, 2006

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DAYTON MAN SENTENCED FOR HIS ROLE IN STOLEN-GOODS TRAFFICKING RING

DAYTON - Amjad Salem, age 40, was sentenced here today to 132 months imprisonment and ordered to pay \$2,669,848.80 in restitution for his role in money laundering, structuring and conspiracy in connection with his roles in interstate transportation of stolen property. On January 22, 2004, teams of federal and local agents arrested 20 people in Ohio and Florida in connection with the trafficking of stolen merchandise and food stamps at inner-city markets in the Dayton area.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro; Abelino Farias, Jr., Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Inspector General; Stanley Borgia, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cincinnati Field Division; the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Investigative Unit; and members of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission announced the sentence handed down today by U.S. District Court Judge Thomas M. Rose.

Amjad Salem was charged with 62 counts of money laundering, forfeiture, conspiracy, and structuring.

"This sentence is the result of an extensive investigation into a money laundering and conspiracy ring that involved stealing merchandise, re-labeling and reselling it, and then laundering the profits through various financial institutions. This criminal enterprise directly impacted business operations in states ranging from Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Florida, Texas, California and New York," Lockhart said.

A task force under the direction of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission conducted the original investigation. Participating agencies include:

Centerville Police Department
Dayton Police Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General
German Township Police Department
Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation
Kettering Police Department
Miamisburg Police Department
Montgomery County Sheriff David Vore's Office
Moraine Police Department
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation
Ohio Department of Public Safety's Investigative Unit

Perry Township Police Department
Tactical Crime Suppression Unit (Montgomery County)

OOCIC established the task force to investigate alleged organized crime activity based in or near Dayton involving retail convenience store owners, employees and others involved in a criminal conspiracy. Members of the conspiracy allegedly bought stolen merchandise from repetitive thieves and shoplifters, engaged in food stamp trafficking, money laundering, interstate commerce of stolen property, any other criminal activities.

Lockhart commended the cooperative investigative efforts between federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors, and commended Assistant U.S. Attorneys Margaret Quinn and Dwight Keller who are prosecuting the case.

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